

In the Claims:

This listing of claims shall replace all prior versions and listings of claims.

Claim 1 (original): An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a polynucleotide having a nucleotide sequence at least 95% identical to a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polynucleotide fragment of SEQ ID NO:X or a polynucleotide fragment of the cDNA sequence included in ATCC Deposit No:Z, which is hybridizable to SEQ ID NO:X;

(b) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide fragment of SEQ ID NO:Y or a polypeptide fragment encoded by the cDNA sequence included in ATCC Deposit No:Z, which is hybridizable to SEQ ID NO:X;

(c) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide domain of SEQ ID NO:Y or a polypeptide domain encoded by the cDNA sequence included in ATCC Deposit No:Z, which is hybridizable to SEQ ID NO:X;

(d) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide epitope of SEQ ID NO:Y or a polypeptide epitope encoded by the cDNA sequence included in ATCC Deposit No:Z, which is hybridizable to SEQ ID NO:X;

(e) a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:Y or the cDNA sequence included in ATCC Deposit No:Z, which is hybridizable to SEQ ID NO:X, having biological activity;

(f) a polynucleotide which is a variant of SEQ ID NO:X;

(g) a polynucleotide which is an allelic variant of SEQ ID NO:X;

(h) a polynucleotide which encodes a species homologue of the SEQ ID NO:Y;

(i) a polynucleotide capable of hybridizing under stringent conditions to any one of the polynucleotides specified in (a)-(h), wherein said polynucleotide does not hybridize under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence of only A residues or of only T residues.

Claims 2-12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (original): An isolated antibody that binds specifically to the isolated polypeptide of claim 11.

Claim 14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (original): A method of making an isolated polypeptide comprising:

- (a) culturing the recombinant host cell of claim 14 under conditions such that said polypeptide is expressed; and
- (b) recovering said polypeptide.

Claim 16 (canceled)

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Claim 17 (currently amended): A method for preventing, treating, or ameliorating a medical condition, comprising administering to a mammalian subject a therapeutically effective amount of ~~the polypeptide of claim 11 or the polynucleotide of claim 1.~~

Claim 18 (original): A method of diagnosing a pathological condition or a susceptibility to a pathological condition in a subject comprising:

- (a) determining the presence or absence of a mutation in the polynucleotide of claim 1; and
- (b) diagnosing a pathological condition or a susceptibility to a pathological condition based on the presence or absence of said mutation.

Claim 19 (original): A method of diagnosing a pathological condition or a susceptibility to a pathological condition in a subject comprising:

- (a) determining the presence or amount of expression of the polypeptide of claim 11 in a biological sample; and
- (b) diagnosing a pathological condition or a susceptibility to a pathological condition based on the presence or amount of expression of the polypeptide.

Claim 20 (original): A method for identifying a binding partner to the polypeptide of claim 11 comprising:

- (a) contacting the polypeptide of claim 11 with a binding partner; and
- (b) determining whether the binding partner effects an activity of the polypeptide.

Claim 21 (canceled)

Claim 22 (original): A method of identifying an activity in a biological assay, wherein the method comprises:

- (a) expressing SEQ ID NO:X in a cell;
- (b) isolating the supernatant;

- (c) detecting an activity in a biological assay; and
- (d) identifying the protein in the supernatant having the activity.

Claim 23 (canceled)

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Claim 24 (new): A method for preventing, treating, or ameliorating a medical condition, comprising administering to a mammalian subject a therapeutically effective amount of the polypeptide of claim 11.

Claim 25: (new): An isolated protein comprising amino acid residues 34 to 766 of SEQ ID NO:35.

Claim 26: (new): The isolated protein of claim 25 which comprises amino acid residues 2 to 766 of SEQ ID NO:35.

Claim 27: (new): The isolated protein of claim 25 which comprises amino acid residues 1 to 766 of SEQ ID NO:35.

Claim 28: (new): The protein of claim 25 which further comprises a heterologous polypeptide sequence.

Claim 29: (new): A composition comprising the protein of claim 25 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 30: (new): An isolated protein produced by the method comprising:

- (a) expressing the protein of claim 25 by a cell; and
- (b) recovering said protein.

Claim 31: (new): An isolated protein comprising the amino acid sequence of the secreted portion of the polypeptide encoded by the HCE3C63 cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-909.

Claim 32: (new): The isolated protein of claim 31 which comprises the amino acid sequence of the complete polypeptide encoded by the HCE3C63 cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-909, excepting the N-terminal methionine.

Claim 33: (new): The isolated protein of claim 31 which comprises the amino acid sequence of the complete polypeptide encoded by the HCE3C63 cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-909.

Claim 34: (new): The protein of claim 31 which further comprises a heterologous polypeptide sequence.

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Claim 35: (new): A composition comprising the protein of claim 31 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

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Claim 36: (new): An isolated protein produced by the method comprising:
(a) expressing the protein of claim 31 by a cell; and
(b) recovering said protein.

Claim 37: (new): An isolated protein comprising a polypeptide sequence which is at least 90% identical to amino acid residues 1 to 766 of SEQ ID NO:35.

Claim 38: (new): The isolated protein of claim 37, wherein said polypeptide sequence is at least 95% identical to amino acid residues 1 to 766 of SEQ ID NO:35.

Claim 39: (new): The protein of claim 37 which further comprises a heterologous polypeptide sequence.

Claim 40: (new): A composition comprising the protein of claim 37 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 41: (new): An isolated protein produced by the method comprising:
(a) expressing the protein of claim 37 by a cell; and
(b) recovering said protein.

Claim 42: (new): An isolated protein comprising a polypeptide sequence which is at least 90% identical to the complete polypeptide encoded by the HCE3C63 cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-909.

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Claim 43: (new): The isolated protein of claim 42, wherein said polypeptide sequence is at least 95% identical to the complete polypeptide encoded by the HCE3C63 cDNA contained in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-909.

Claim 44: (new): The protein of claim 42 which further comprises a heterologous polypeptide sequence.

Claim 45: (new): A composition comprising the protein of claim 42 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 46: (new): An isolated protein produced by the method comprising:

- (a) expressing the protein of claim 42 by a cell; and
 - (b) recovering said protein.
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